



# EMIHS 5-minute Lineup Drill

What to do when there is no DNR paperwork

## Verbal DNR

### Situation:

1. Cardiac Arrest
2. Reasonable belief that the patient does not want resuscitation
3. Paperwork is not an “official DNR” or is missing

### Actions:

1. Establish floor of care ([SPASM mnemonic](#))
2. Gather evidence of patient’s wishes
  - Talk to family
  - Living will
  - Incomplete DNR
3. Obtain a **verbal DNR** via normal medical consult process by *articulating the reason you believe the patient did not want resuscitation*

### Keep in mind . . .

- Obtaining a verbal DNR can happen at any point, including after the resuscitation has begun
- This decision balances our duty to act with respect for patient and family wishes
- You are identifying and complying with the patient’s wishes for their care – you are **not** determining futility or calling for early TOR